



Northern Maine Waterways Stewardship Alliance Intern

This internship is part of an ongoing collaboration between Lake Stewards of Maine (LSM) and the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township (PIT) Environmental Department. The intern will have two supervisors (one LSM and one PIT supervisor) and the intern's time will be split somewhat evenly between LSM and PIT responsibilities and tasks.



Lake Stewards of Maine

Introduction and Job Description

LSM promotes lake stewardship through widespread citizen participation in the gathering and dissemination of credible scientific information pertaining to lake health. LSM trains, certifies, and provides technical support to hundreds of volunteers who monitor a wide range of indicators of water quality, assess watershed health and function, and screen lakes for invasive aquatic plants and animals (IAS). In addition to being the primary source of lake data in the State of Maine, LSM volunteers benefit their local lakes by playing key stewardship and leadership roles in their communities.

In 2019, variable milfoil, an invasive aquatic plant, was confirmed in Big Lake in Washington County. Since then, LSM has been working closely with State Agency staff, area partners (including PIT Water Resource Department) and an experienced team of LSM Invasive Plant Patrollers (IPPers) to develop, coordinate and carry out an effective response to this threat. The LSM portion of this internship will be primarily focused upon this collaborative response effort and is intended to enhance LSM's ability to provide the education, technical assistance and support needed to ensure the effort's long-term success.

Intern Responsibilities for LSM

- Assist invasive plant surveys
- Participate in various forms of outreach for Big Lake region community
- Invasive Plant Patrol training assistant
- Provide one-on-one IAS mentoring for interested community members upon request
- Participate in weekly or biweekly Big Lake Response Team meetings
- Function as liaison between Big Lake Coalition partners
- Contribute to preparation of Northern Maine IAS vulnerability report for the purpose of applying for Federal grant funding
- Other tasks related to the long-term success of the Big Lake milfoil response

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township Environmental Department

Introduction and Job Description

The Passamaquoddy Tribe's Environmental Department has been collecting water chemistry data from 16 lakes in and around the West Branch of the St Croix River Watershed since 1993 to help determine long

term lake health trends. In addition to water chemistry data, the Tribe is partnering with local stakeholders in responding to an aquatic invasive plant infestation in Big Lake, at the center of their homeland. The Environmental Department is looking for a summer field assistant to help with water quality and aquatic invasive plant projects and programs.

Intern Responsibilities for PIT

- Assist water quality monitoring in the field
- Assist invasive plant surveys
- Other tasks related to the protection of Tribal lands and waters

What we are looking for in a candidate:

- Ability to work and communicate well with others; able to work independently, as well as part of a team
- Strong communication skills, including writing skills
- Passion for lake/water conservation and preservation
- Willingness to spend time on the water in boats (kayaks and motorized boats)
- Critical attention to detail and accuracy
- Eagerness to learn
- Means of transportation and a valid driver's license (work related mileage will be reimbursed by LSM)
- Competency as a swimmer
- Willingness to work a somewhat flexible work schedule (field work is weather dependent; some workshops and events take place on weekends)
- Familiarity with educating, mentoring and/or engaging others in a learning experience

Beneficial but not required:

- Botany skills and/or familiarity with dichotomous keys
- Basic understanding of limnology and/or water chemistry
- Training related to outdoor emergency care, first-aid or similar

What you will gain from the experience:

- Increased knowledge, skills, and abilities
- First-hand experience and understanding of the key role nonprofits and Tribal governments play in advancing social and environmental benefit
- Valuable practical experience in the field of water resource protection (aquatic plant identification, lake water-quality monitoring, lake health indicators and more)
- Outdoor experience and adventure on and among some of Maine's most beautiful lakes

Pay, hours, benefits, and certifications

- Full time internship
- Access to a kayak, paddle, and PFD for the summer (when not in programmatic use)
- Opportunity to participate in networking and social events through the Maine Career Catalyst program
- Travel across various parts of the state of Maine (mileage reimbursement by LSM)
- Opportunities to meet and network with experienced professionals in State government and partnering NGOs
- Opportunities to meet and work with some of Maine's most capable and dedicated volunteers
- Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification Certification
- Water Quality Certification

- This is an unpaid internship, but we encourage the applicant to apply for funding through their institution. (We can offer resources if need be)

APPLICATIONS DUE TUESDAY MARCH 15th

APPLICATIONS WILL BE EVALUATED ON A ROLLING BASIS

How to Apply: Please send along a PDF including your resume and letter of interest to stewards@lakestewardsme.org with the subject [last name] Northern Maine Intern. We will follow up with time slots for interviews and if you have any questions, please direct them to topher@lakestewardsme.org.